(c) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to implement all schemes?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) There is a proposal to formulate a scheme in order to provide reform linked Central assistance for infrastructural development of all cities and towns in the country. Details of the scheme have not been finalised.

Homeless People in Delhi

744. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 1,40,000 homeless in the Capital city Delhi without any shelter;

(b) whether around one per cent of population is homeless in the city; and

(c) what is Government's action plan to provide shelters to these homeless specially women and children?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Government of NCT of Delhi has reported that as per Census 2001, the number of houseless persons in Delhi was 24,966, which is estimated to be 0.18 per cent of population of Delhi.

(c) Ministry of Urban Employments Poverty Alleviation, Govt, of India, has started a scheme called Night Shelter for Urban Shelterless which covers all urban centres having concentration of footpath dwellers/homeless. Under this scheme, a Central Govt, subsidy @50% of the cost of construction subject to cost ceiling of Rs. 20,000/- per bed is provided through HUDCO. The balance is required to be arranged by the State Govt./Implementing Agency. The progress of the Scheme depends on the proposals mooted by the state.

Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that the Draft Master Plan of Delhi-2021 also places emphasis on provisions for homeless in the form of night shelter, women's hostels, orphanage, children centre etc.